

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST &
WHITE

See Also: Chase National Bank

1927

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE
ARCHITECTS

ERNEST R. GRAHAM
PEIRCE ANDERSON EDWARD PROBST
HOWARD J. WHITE

EQUITABLE BUILDING, NEW YORK June 12, 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155 Street, New York.

Dear Sir:

We acknowledge receipt of two plaster casts of early American coin, and request that you kindly send us a description and date of this coin at your earliest convenience.

We also enclose two photostat prints of antique coins which have been selected in place of several discarded coins, and would appreciate a description and date on same, face side being pencilled in red, which is to be used in our door motif together with a plaster cast of each of these coins, if they are in your collection.

Kindly return these photostats and plaster cast at your early convenience.

Very truly yours,

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE

By -

M. J. Schiavoni

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE
ARCHITECTS

ERNEST R. GRAHAM
PEIRCE ANDERSON EDWARD PROBST
HOWARD J. WHITE

APS

RAILWAY EXCHANGE, CHICAGO

June 18, 1927

American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 156th St.,
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

We are at present engaged in the design of the new building for the Chase National Bank in New York City, and we have been referred to you by the Curator of the Metropolitan Museum of New York in regard to certain technical advice relative to a scheme of coins. We are proposing to use a series of 22 old coins, running from the first known coin to say one or two hundred years ago, in order to avoid any conflict with present financial traditions, each of these coins to represent some phase of the world's financial history. We are sending you some photostats showing the scale of coin and the character of decoration which we are proposing to use, and while we have made a selection of these, we feel that the advice of an expert in the matter will so much enhance the meaning of the decoration that we have asked you to cooperate with us by selecting some 22 to 25 coins of this general scale, that is, about the same amount of modeling.

We will be very glad to retain your services in this matter, and the writer expects to be in New York on Thursday or Friday of next week, at which time he would like to go over the matter with you. In the meantime if you could advise me what time on Thursday or Friday would be convenient for us to get together and as to your desirability of cooperating with us in this matter, we would very greatly appreciate it.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Shaw.

and
Casts for Mr. Sherr

1. Metapontum Stater - 550-525 B.C.
2. Posedonia - 550-525 B.C.
3. Syracuse - Drachm c. 500
4. Athens - c. 450 B.C.
5. Syracuse - Decadrachm (reverse) c. 413 B.C.
6. Agregentum - c. 450 B.C.
7. Tarentum (obverse and reverse) c. 350 B.C.
8. Corinth (Pegasus) - 350-338 B.C.
9. Alexander the Great (reverse) c. 235 B.C.
10. Ptolemaic type - 300-100 B.C.
11. Jewish Shekel (reverse)
12. Roman Aureus of Augustus
13. Aureus of Constantine the Great
14. Kanishka, a Kushan ruler of India.
15. Sassanian - c. 300 A.D.
16. Dinar of Abd-el-malik (please note that top is indicated on the back of the cast.)
17. Venetian Sequin
18. Florin
19. Milanese, issue of Galeazzo Visconti.
20. England - Angel of Henry VIII
21. France - a Royale d'Or of Phillip VI
22. Shilling of Phillip of Spain and Mary
23. Jomachin Thaler from which the dollar derived its name.
24. Aegina - c. 300 B.C. (Turtle, the cast of which you took with you. It should follow #4 in chronological order.)

This makes 25 coins in all. You ask me to indicate those I would suggest your omitting. I would suggest, in the following order of importance, #17, 22 and 16. The first of these for the reason that the image embodied is a religious one, the second (#22) because the decoration is heraldic rather than numismatic and the last because the Arabic would be difficult to copy accurately and when enlarged, would bear slight resemblance to a coin.

June 24, 1927

and
Mr. Alfred Sherr,
Graham, Anderson, Probst & White,
Railway Exchange, Chicago

Dear Sir:

Herewith are casts of the coins selected by you when you were here yesterday together with a brief description to help you place them. Mr. Wood tells me that he is accustomed to charge 25 cents each for these casts. I am not including the two that were handed you yesterday because I should like to have you return them but the others are to be found on the memorandum which accompanies this.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB
Encl.

CHASE NATIONAL BANK

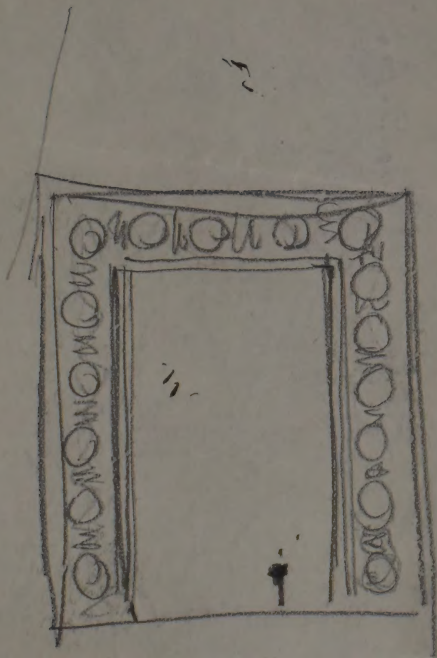
Alfred Shaw.

2648 Equitable
New York.

or

1417 Railway Exchange
Chicago.

Graham Anderson Probst & White
Archts.



13

XVII

XIX

XX

XVIII

XVI

III

X

XI

XII

July 13, 1927

Graham, Anderson, Probst & White,
Equitable Building,
New York City

Gentlemen:

Responding to yours of June 12th, the coin of which you received casts is known as a Pine Tree Shilling. They were struck in Massachusetts in 1642 and thereabouts. The coin is of silver.

Of the reproductions which you sent me, the first is a Roman Denarius of Republican issue of approximately 150 to 100 B. C. The second is apparently a Sestertius of Septimius Severus, who ruled from 193 to 211 A.D. The piece you illustrate represents a funeral pile and commemorates the deification of this emperor. It is not characteristic of the Roman coinage and I can see very slight reason for its selection for your scheme.

I am unable to send you a cast of this piece. Of the other, a cast is being sent under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB

July 13, 1927

Graham, Anderson, Probst & White,
Equitable Bldg., Room 2648,
New York City

Gentlemen:

In compliance with telephone conversation
of even date, we are enclosing herewith a copy of
letter sent to you on July 13th.

Very truly yours,

American Numismatic Society

Casts for Mr. Shaw

**GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE
ARCHITECTS**

1. Metapontum, Staten Island 550-625 B.C.
FRANK R. GRAHAM
HOWARD J. WHITE

2. Poseonia ~~FOUR 550-525 B.C.~~ NEW YORK

~~3. Syracuse - Decadrachm c. 500~~

~~4. Athens - c. 450 B.C. (omitted)~~

5. Syracuse - Decadrachm (reverse) c. 415 B.C.

6. Agrigentum - c. 450 B.C.

~~7. Parentum (obverse and reverse) c. 350 B.C.~~

8. Corinth (Pegasus) - 350-338 B.C.

9. Alexander the Great (reverse) c. 235 B.C.

10. Ptolemaic type - 300-100 B.C.

11. Jewish Shekel (reverse)

~~12. Roman aureus of Augustus~~

~~13. Aureus of Constantine the Great~~

~~14. Kanishka, a Kushan ruler of India.~~

~~15. Roman aureus c. 300 A.D. (omitted)~~

~~16. (Liner of 250-21 marix) please note that top is indicated on
top of cast. (omitted)~~

~~17. Venetian Scudo (omitted)~~

~~18. Florin~~

19. Milanese, issue of Galeazzo Visconti

20. England - Angel of Henry VIII

21. France - a Royale d'Or of Phillip VI

~~22. Shilling of Phillip of Spain and Mary (omitted)~~

23. Joachim Thaler from which the dollar derived its name.

~~24. Lira - c. 300 B.C. (partially) the cast of which you took
with you. Should follow 14 in chronological order~~ (omitted)

~~25. Roman Denarius - Republican issue, 100 to 100 B.C.~~

26. Sestertius of Septimus Severus - 193 to 211 A.D.

27. Pine Tree Shilling - early American, Massachusetts, 1642

28. Late American - Peace Dollar - 1901 =

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE
ARCHITECTS

ERNEST R. GRAHAM
PEIRCE ANDERSON EDWARD PROBST
HOWARD J. WHITE

EQUITABLE BUILDING, NEW YORK

July 28, 1927.

Mr. Sidney P. Noe, Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
155 Street & Broadway, New York.

Dear Sir:

We are sending you under separate cover a photostat copy of our drawing made for the Pine Street architrave to the new Chase National Bank Building entrance, indicating the proposed scheme of ornament and placement of the various coins, all of which will be carved in light pink Tennessee marble.

~~We are enclosing~~ a copy of your coin list as selected by our Mr. Shaw, and we now kindly ask you to check over the said list with the numbers opposite each coin on the photostat, and verify if said coins as indicated, check with your list.

We also request that you kindly fill in the missing dates opposite each coin. Also the origin or country, if at all possible, and return the list and photostat at your very earliest convenience.

The bank officials have decided not to place the coins in chronological order and it may interest you to know that we have suggested placing the United States Peace Dollar #28 in place of #20, and shifting #21 and #22 right and left of #28, with perhaps other minor changes.

We would appreciate any criticisms you may have to make in reviewing the proposed scheme.

And thanking you in advance, we are,

Very truly yours,

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE

By -

M. Schiavoni

July 30, 1927.

Messrs. Graham, Anderson, Probst and White,

120 Broadway, New York.

Dear Sirs:-

Your letter of the 28th together with the photostat copy of the drawing made for the Pine Street architrave to the new Chase National Bank, has been received.

I have checked the accompanying list of the coins, made previously, and save for one slight correction - the transposition of Nos. 6 and 9 - it seems correct. The dates have been supplied, where lacking. It should be explained, however, that with some of these - in fact with most - these designs are not to be assigned to a definite year. Their use extended over a period sometimes nearly a century in length.

I cannot remember having mentioned to your Mr. Shaw that there is a law forbidding the reproduction of United States coins except by scientific societies for numismatic or similar purposes. This is sometimes interpreted rather strictly by the Secret Service people - in fact, I believe that a baker was once enjoined from having cookies with an Indian Head made, because they remotely resembled a cent. The only coin affected would be the Peace Dollar. Whether you prefer to risk interference to undertaking a prolonged negotiation which might be fruitless is a decision which you must make.

You ask for criticisms of your arrangement. As there is no consistent arrangement other than a purely decorative one, I have but one. Because they are larger in scale, it seems to me that some of the heads (such as 12 and 25) would carry better at the top than Nos. 20 and 21 which are now placed there. Where lettering is used, I would suggest that you let me check the inscriptions before they are cut in the marble.

I trust this will give you the desired information,

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

1. Metapontum Stater- 550- 525 B.C.
2. Poseidonia - 550-525 B.C.
3. Syracuse- Drachm c. 500
5. Syracuse- Decadrachm (reverse) c. 413 B.C.
6. Alexander the Great (reverse) c. 335 B.C.
7. Tarentum (obverse and reverse) c. 350 B.C.
8. Corinth (Pegasus) - 350- 338 B.C.
9. Agrigentum- c. 450 B.C.
10. Ptolemaic type - 300- 100 B.C.
11. Jewish Shekel (reverse) 143- 135 B.C.
12. Roman-Aureus of Augustus 27 B.C.- 14 A.D.
13. Aureus of Constantine the Great 307 - 337 A.D.
14. Kanishka, a Kushan ruler of India. 200 - 300 A.D.
18. Florin 1252 onward
19. Milanese, issue of Galeazzo Visconti *Martin Spry* 1466-76
20. England - Angel of Henry VIII 1509 - 1547
21. France - a Royale d'Or of Phillip VI (1328 - 1350)
23. Joachim Thaler from which the dollar derived its name 1525 onward
25. Roman Denarius - Republican issue, 150 to 100 B.C.
26. Sestertius of Septimus Severus- 193 to 211 A.D.
27. Pine Tree Shilling- early American, Massachusetts, 1642
28. Late American- Peace Dollar 1921.

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE
ARCHITECTS

ERNEST R. GRAHAM
PEIRCE ANDERSON EDWARD PROBST
HOWARD J. WHITE

EQUITABLE BUILDING, NEW YORK

August 2, 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Nee, Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155 Street, New York.

Dear Sir:

We have received your reply to our inquiry,
and wish to thank you sincerely for the additional in-
formation. Also for your valuable criticisms and
suggestions.

We shall be pleased to send you a photostatic
copy as soon as the final arrangement is decided upon.

Very truly yours,

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE

2 - *M. Schiavoni*

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE
ARCHITECTS

ERNEST R. GRAHAM
PEIRCE ANDERSON EDWARD PROBST
HOWARD J. WHITE

EQUITABLE BUILDING, NEW YORK August 4, 1927.

Sydney P. Nee, Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155 Street, New York.

Dear Sir:

At a subsequent meeting held by the bank of
EXHIBITS relating to the coin collection for the entrance
architrave motif, it was decided to omit the
following coins:

Nos. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.

19, 20, 21

They desire to substitute a representative,
Executive Committee, following entries, if available:

Old Russian, Japanese, Spanish,
German, Holland, Canadian, and
a New York State coin if any
exists.

It was also decided that a new chronological
order of sequence is desired, which will mean that our
arrangement will be revised. We are now asking you
to send us duplicate casts of the following coins:

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 27.

plus casts of the seven new coins mentioned above, at
your very earliest convenience and bill us for the charges.

Thanking you again, we are,

Very truly yours,

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE

By-

M. Schiaroni

W.	Russia	Rubles	the Great - Eagle.
W.	Japan	Yen -	the Kiri & -
W.	Spain	Pesos	Dollars.
W.	Germany	—	—
W.	France	—	Monnaie Courante
W.	China	—	—
W.	U. S. A.	—	—

August 8, 1927

Graham, Anderson, Probst & White,
Room 2648,
Equitable Building,
New York City

Dear Sirs: Attention Mr. M.J. Schiavoni

Your letter of August 4th is at hand. Under separate cover I have sent you the duplicates of the casts you desire. To these I have added three additional casts:-

No. 28 (Russia)

No. 29 (Japan)

No. 30 (A Spanish Pillar dollar struck in Mexico.)

I note that you say that the bank officials "desire to substitute representative coins of the following nations, if obtainable." The final qualifying phrase expresses the difficulty. The selection made by your Mr. Shaw had as its criterion, in addition to the decorativeness of the coins, their historical importance. The result of his selection as shown in the photostat reproduction which you sent me was so eminently satisfactory from both points of view. To have that well balanced selection upset for the sake of another which seems to have no consistent basis except geographical distribution, would be as mistaken from the point of view of the aesthetic result as it would be from the historical. There is no distinctive Canadian coin and it would be very difficult to select a single coin to represent the issues of Germany or Russia. To interpolate in a series such as you desire the comparatively unimportant issue of New York state could hardly be *advised* even though explained by local pride. To substitute a Japanese coin for the Florin, which played so large a part in the history of the coinage of Europe, is to display faulty judgment.

Please pardon my being so emphatic - I feel sure that the bank for which this work is being done would not desire

Graham, Anderson, Probst & White

- 2 -

a result which would be open to severe criticism when it is finished, the more so that they are presumably somewhat informed in regard to the coins which are reproduced. I am venturing to suggest that you lay before the officials who will make the ultimate decision, a suggestion that they reconsider the one which you have communicated to me.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:MB

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE
ARCHITECTS

ERNEST R. GRAHAM
PEIRCE ANDERSON EDWARD PROBST
HOWARD J. WHITE

EQUITABLE BUILDING, NEW YORK August 18, 1927.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe, Secretary,
American Numismatic Society,
155 Street and Broadway, New York.

Dear Sir:

We are sending you under separate cover a photostat copy of the original drawing made for the marble architrave around the Chase Bank entrance, showing the coins as originally selected.

Alongside of each coin we have marked in red crayon numbers indicating the final selection, according to your list, as decided upon by Mr. Schley and the bank officials at a meeting yesterday afternoon.

It is doubtful whether we shall make at this time a corrected drawing showing the coin designs in their relative position. Should this correction be made at a later date, we shall be pleased to send you a photostat copy.

Thanking you for your many kindnesses,
we remain,

Very truly yours,

GRAHAM, ANDERSON, PROBST & WHITE

By - *M. Schiavoni*
J

August 29, 1927

Mr. M. Schlavoni,
Graham, Anderson, Probst & White,
Equitable Building,
New York City

Dear Sir:

Herewith I am sending you a memorandum to cover the second lot of casts made for you (duplicate set) with the four others additional, which were selected after your conference with the bank officials.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

SPN:ME
Encl.

6TH December, 1927

Messrs. Graham Anderson, Probst & White,
Room 2648, Equitable Building,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

We are enclosing a duplicate of our bill of
August 8th. This, you will recall, was for a duplicate
of the lot of plaster casts previously furnished you.
I presume the matter has been overlooked.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.